**Describe the significance of interfaith dialogue within Australia as a multi-faith country.**

Within Australia, interfaith dialogue is extremely significant as Australia is a multi faith country. Interfaith dialogue is a formal discussion between two or more religious traditions, aiming to develop a greater understanding of other religions. The motive of interfaith dialogue is to promote peace and understanding, to work together on projects benefitting humanity. Interfaith dialogue aims to bring social justice, and peace within Australia. Inter-faith dialogue has been supportive to tragedies such as the Boxing Day Tsunami, the Bali bombings, through inter-faith memorials. One major impact interfaith dialogue has had on Australia was through Pope John Paul || interfaith prayer service in 1996.

Interfaith dialogue rejects all religions been the same and prevents religions to unify, however enable different Religions to find a common grounds between each other. An example of interfaith dialogue is the NSW Council of Christians and Jews developed in 1989. The activities, which the NSW council of Christians and Jews provided were an annual Passover demonstration, directed at gentiles, Holocaust education and an annual commemorative service held (for holocaust) at St. Mary’s Roman Catholic Cathedral, Sydney.

Religious conflict, both historical and ongoing has led to prejudice between religions. Interfaith dialogue aims to prevent inter-religious conflict. After the September 11 bombings, Australians became suspicious based on the Muslim community. Interfaith dialogue was successful in developing a mutual understanding based on the September 11 bombings. It also enabled the Australian community to break down all the stereotypes against Muslims and prejudice towards them.

Therefore, interfaith dialogue is very significant in Australia, as it is a multi- faith country. Interfaith dialogue within Australia aims to bring mutual understanding between two or more religions to bring peace and justice to the country.